



TMA 05

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TMA 05

Word limit: 2,000 words

When you have completed this assignment, submit it via the eTMA system to arrive no later than midday on **11 April 2019**.

In no more than 2,000 words, write an essay in answer to the following question:

To what extent did government serve the people in the early modern period? Discuss with reference to two or more of the module chapters.

In your essay you are required to refer to examples from one or two Independent Study exercises.

Guidance notes

This assignment provides you with an opportunity to write a long essay on a single wide-ranging topic. It focuses on one of the themes of the module: society and social order. It prepares you for Part 3 of the examination by requiring you to think about continuity and change across the module chapters. Although the question is broad, you are not expected to cover everything. It is most important that you construct an argument with care and illustrate it with examples selected from two or more chapters you have chosen to use. In this case Chapter 18 provides a good starting point but other chapters which contain relevant material include Chapters 6, 7, 16 and 17.

As this question asks 'to what extent?' you will need to consider in what ways government did serve the people but also ways it did not do so. You need to develop an argument including both sides to reach a conclusion based on the evidence you provide in your answer.

It would be helpful to consider one or two forms of government and who they served: the monarch, nobility, the church, the ordinary people. Chapter 18 is particularly useful here and you might also refer to the interactive map as discussed in Chapter 17. What were the priorities for governments and how far did they serve the people? You might also consider how government changed over the early modern period and, for example, whether the move towards state building served the people more effectively. Also consider what role the people played in government and what political rights they had.

This type of question requires you to bring together material from at least two module chapters. You will need to spend some time thinking about how you will present the examples you choose and how they might be used to illustrate your argument. There is a lot of material to choose from when writing this TMA and you will need to be selective. Selecting material for inclusion in your essay, or in an exam answer, is an important part of preparing your answer so it is good to practice this. Make sure you reference your material correctly in your essay and in the references list at the end.

In this assignment, you are also required to refer to one or two pieces of material that you have read as part of your independent study. You are free to cite relevant material from any of the independent study sessions but for this TMA Chapter 7 and 18 provide some relevant materials.

The A223 Assessment guide gives advice on writing essays and on referencing. Please also reflect on feedback from your earlier assignments, and use it to help you improve your work.

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